

**ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES
IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

2011 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to the eligibility of secondary school students to participate in certain school activities.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ provides that a school, school district, or association may not prohibit a student from participating in an interscholastic activity:
 - based on the student's transfer to a new school;
 - based on the student's enrollment in a school other than the student's school of residence; or
 - because the student's parent does not reside within the school's attendance area;
- ▶ provides that a school, school district, or association may prohibit a student from participating in an interscholastic activity for certain purposes; and
- ▶ defines terms.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

53A-11-1501, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53A-11-1501** is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 11. STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS

Part 15. Secondary School Interscholastic Activities

53A-11-1501. Eligibility for secondary school interscholastic activities.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Association" means an organization that governs or regulates a student's participation in an interscholastic activity.

(b) "Attendance area" means an area established by a local school board from which students are assigned to attend a certain school.

(c) "Interscholastic activity" means an activity within the state in which the students that participate:

(i) are in grades nine through 12; and

(ii) represent a public or private school in the activity.

(d) "School" includes a public school or private school.

(e) "School of residence" means the school to which a student is assigned to attend based on the student's place of residence.

(2) Except as provided in Sections 53A-1a-519, 53A-2-214, and 53A-11-102.6, a school, school district, or association may not prohibit a student from participating in an interscholastic activity because:

(a) except as provided in Subsection (3)(i), the student transferred between schools or participated in an interscholastic activity at another school during the same or prior school year;

(b) the student enrolled in a school other than the student's school of residence; or

(c) the student's parent does not reside within the school's attendance area.

(3) A school, school district, or association may prohibit a student from participating in an interscholastic activity based on:

(a) the age of the student;

(b) the number of seasons the student has competed in an interscholastic activity;

(c) the student's academic attendance;

(d) the student's scholastic performance;

(e) the student's membership on a team not sponsored by the student's school;

(f) the health and safety of the student or other students competing in the interscholastic activity;

(g) the student's use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco;

- 63 (h) the student's disciplinary or other behavioral problems;
- 64 (i) the student's transfer between schools if the school, school district, or association
- 65 can show that the student was recruited to transfer; or
- 66 (j) the student's status as an amateur or professional athlete.